

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1, 7-10, 13, 14, 16-19, 21, 29-35, 38, and 39 and rejected claims 23-26. The Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter. By the present Response, claims 23-26 are amended. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1, 7-10, 13, 14, 16-19, 21, 23-26, 29-35, 38, and 39 will be pending in the present patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. By the present amendment, Applicants have amended claims 23-26 to incorporate language that the Examiner indicated would be directed to statutory subject matter. Applicants note that the present amendment is not narrowing in nature and merely reflects a reformulation or reordering of the previously recited language.

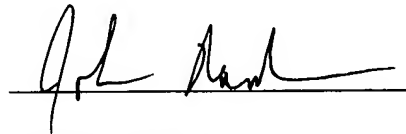
In view of this amendment, claims 23-26 are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the recitations of claims 23-26 are still problematic, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below to discuss any additional or alternative language which may be satisfactory.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 29, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Rariden', is written over a horizontal line.

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